

a little haiku : rage

volume 14

Seasonal newsletter for Haiku Canada's BC and Territories region

Le Bulletin d'information saisonnier pour Haiku Canada
section des Territoires et de la Colombie-britannique



Editorial

Good day! Bonjour

According to psychologists from *The Atlantic*, talking about the weather is the ultimate social equalizer: everyone everywhere on the planet is affected equally by the weather in their area, and talking/complaining about it does not necessitate any specific knowledge to participate in a conversation. It is (usually) a safe and uncontroversial topic. Even a practical one, as sharing the current conditions of a field, a road or river can determine our sports activities, well being habits and social gatherings. It is said that Britts spend 56 hours a year talking about the weather! It is also a topic that is rising in importance in vulnerable areas. The latest survey on climate change lead by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) states that "More than two out of five people (43%) think extreme weather events were worse this year than last. Nearly eight in 10 people (78%) want more protection for people at risk from extreme weather". It is in our minds and conversations and haiku poets might be in the front row noticing these changes due to the attention they pay to everyday life, the little moments and the surrounding nature.

But before you share with us your reflections on climate change, please take time to explore the poetry of Michele Rule, our featured poet from Kelowna (BC) who gladly answered our questionnaire. She also invites you to engage with *the Solitary Daisy*, a project she shares with her friend Sally Quon. Then why not embark on a *road trip* and see where poets from our region and friends will take you! You sure had a lot to say about taking the road. Thank you for sharing your poems with us. Also, it's this time of the year when you can submit your latest publications for the 2026 edition of our regional Poetry Catalogue. Keep us in the loop if you get published! We always like to shine a light on local poets! As always, thank you Ruth Powell, proofreader extraordinaire for your help. It is our pleasure to offer you this Summer edition.

Stay cool/warm/dry and enjoy!

This newsletter is an invitation to build literary friendships and foster collaboration within the haiku community of BC and the Territories... and beyond! Happy reading! Bonne lecture!

in the issue dans ce numéro

- interview / entrevue with Michele Rule
- haiku challenge / défi haiku
- Let's celebrate!
- special projects/ projets spéciaux
- at your calendar / à votre calendrier
- Let's celebrate! On fête!
- present moment... and beyond
- coming up / à l'affiche

REMEMBER to click on any underlined text to directly access information as all underlined text is an active link!
Cliquez sur les sections de texte surligné car les liens sont activés! Ils vous mèneront directement aux sites internet.



Invitation

How does climate change impact your haiku practice and your ginko walks? Do you still use or not *kigo* or "season words"? Are you planning to present your next chapbook (by season? If so, based on traditional views of nature's cycles or the contemporary observation of weather around you?). Are you still writing *en plein air*? Let us know what you think and we'll have a special page about it in our next edition!

Sandra St-Laurent
Regional Coordinator
Coordonnatrice régionale

bc-territories@haikucanada.org

1. What is your favorite form(s), haiku, haibun, haiga, tanka, monoku and why?

My favourite form is haiku. I love the deceptive simplicity of it.



Michele
Rule

Photo: Wendy McAlpine

2. When did you start reading/writing haiku and why it appealed to you?

I was living in Japan about 40 years ago, teaching English at a university in Kyoto, and I was asked to help translate haiku into English! At the time we made the translations work in a 5-7-5 pattern. Then I didn't think about haiku again until COVID, when I accidentally came upon a haiku workshop with Michael Dylan Welch.

“ I have been reading and writing haiku ever since.”

3. What is your idea of perfect haiku?

A perfect haiku will make me laugh, or cry, or feel peaceful.
So really, a perfect haiku opens up an emotional response in me.
I also like haiku with bugs in them!



4. What is your connection with the seasons?

I am so lucky to live in a region that has very distinct seasons. I tend to write to the current season in most of my work.

5. Favorite season (or kigo)?

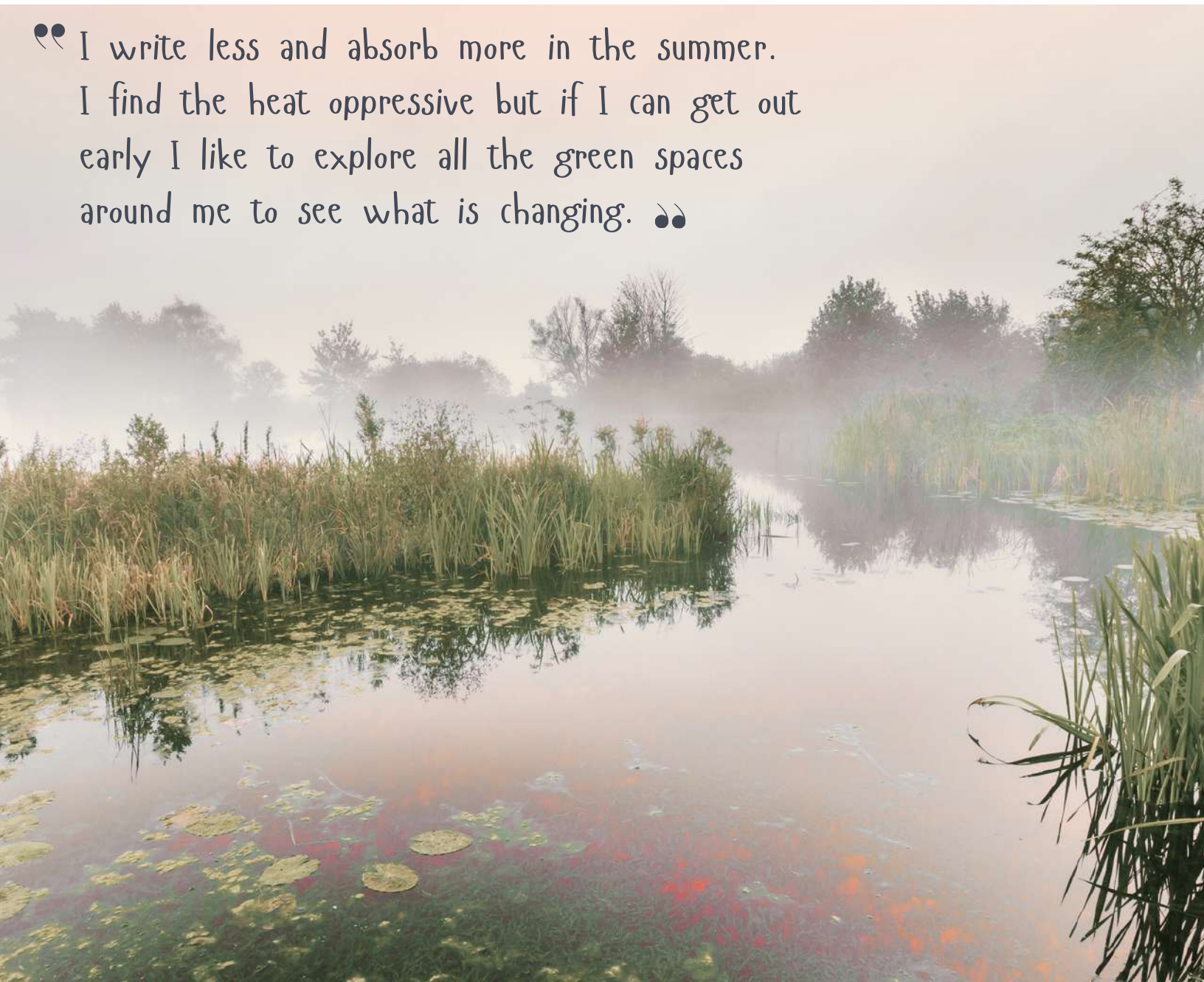
I love them all!

6. What do you particularly like about your region?

A five minute drive and I can be in total nature!

There is also a huge lake, many rivers, and marshlands.

“ I write less and absorb more in the summer.
I find the heat oppressive but if I can get out
early I like to explore all the green spaces
around me to see what is changing. ”





7. Favorite ginko walk?

There is a small park called Woodhaven that is still within the city but makes you feel as if you are deeply in the woods. Anytime of day or weather it is an inspiring ginkō, but in the evening it is magical and there are so many different owls.

8. You find a treasure while hiking. What is it?

A door to a magic realm of faeries and talking animals.

lilac blooms
the overwhelming presence
of my grandmother

Michele Rule

in Enchanted Garden, March 2025, issue 11
also the Haiku Canada Members Anthology 2025



*But I am surrounded by people
that love me
and there are no expectations
for me to be any different
than I am.*

That's pretty special.



9. When and where were you happiest?

I really am happiest here in Kelowna and in this moment. Which seems strange because I'm dealing with some pretty serious health issues.

10. Are there any topics or causes that are important to you and are reflected in your poetry?

I write a lot about living with chronic illness – I have a book-length manuscript of poems on this topic. Family and environment also feature predominantly in my work.

11. What do you most value in writing?

I can escape from pain when I pick up a pen. Especially with haiku, which can be a kind of meditation. I've never been good at the sit-still kind of meditation, but focusing on a haiku keeps me right in the present.

12. Which words or phrases do you most overuse?

I say "super" all the time according to my family.

MINDFULNESS



dancing feet
the red and yellow swirl
of poppies

Michele Rule

in Poetry Pea Journal 5/2025



13. What is the quality you most like in a poet?

I like poets who have self-confidence.

That feels inspiring to me as I struggle with my own confidence.

14. What is your greatest fear as a writer or poet?

That people will be bored by what I write. I don't want to be boring!

15. If you were to be an element of nature, what would it be?

I suspect I'm the wind. I can go with the flow but when I care about something deeply I'm as fierce as a hurricane.

16. What do you consider your greatest achievement?

Aside from some remarkable kids, I was once a city councilor and approved an outdoor skating rink and a 50 metre pool that are loved and enjoyed by so many people.

17. When it comes to writing, how do you deal with selection/rejection?

I feel the sadness and then make an x in my submission journal and then send the piece out again. Like getting back up on the horse. If I dwell on the rejection too long I jeopardize the upcoming possibilities for a piece.



Photo: Frithjof Petscheleit

I carry my bags
to the door of the shelter
fireflies

Michele Rule

in First Frost, Fall 2024



Photo: Arina Elyzen

18. What project are you currently working on?

I'm actually just putting the finishing touches on a chapbook of poetry that I wrote during the Artemis II mission this past spring! My husband painted the cover image and is doing the publishing, so I'm enjoying doing a joint project with him like this.

19. A fantastic grant allows you to choose your next writing retreat destination, where would you go?

The Great Bear Rainforest!

The Great Bear Rainforest is the largest intact coastal temperate rainforest in the world, at 6.4 million hectares. The rainforest, spanning the central and northern coast regions of British Columbia, is perhaps best known for its population of Kermode or "Spirit" bears. Spirit bears are a subspecies of black bear that possess a white fur coat due to a recessive gene. It is estimated that no more than two hundred of these bears reside in the world, and only in the Great Bear Rainforest. The Great Bear Rainforest has become a popular destination for travelers seeking first-hand views of the region's stunning landscapes, waterways and array of wildlife. Indigenous peoples have lived on the land now known as the Great Bear Rainforest since time immemorial.

Source: Government of British Columbia and the Great Bear Forest Trust

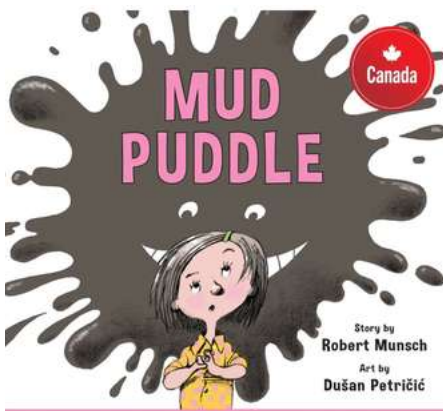


20. Describe your favorite bookmark.

I have a page clip with a drawing of a polar bear that my young grandson made!

21. You are part of a volunteer group that reads to rescue dogs in your local animal shelter, what title(s) do you read to them?

Oh, I am definitely bringing in our collection of Robert Munsch books! My children loved them and I think dogs would as well.



22. Your friends want to surprise you with a perfect meal. What would it be?

BBQ ham, thickly sliced. Steamed brussels sprouts and mashed sweet potatoes.
Crème Brûlée or Black Forest Cake for dessert – or maybe both!



garlic scapes
the stew rises above
its ordinary roots

Michele Rule

in Haiku Girl Summer 2025

23. What is your greatest extravagance?

Fancy **Chocolate** ...I cannot walk by a chocolate shop.

24. When not writing you are... (fill in)?

When not writing, I am hanging out in the garden, or a park, or the woods. I also like to do mixed media art and listen to music.



25. Which talent would you most like to have?

I wish I could really sing, like kd lang or Joni Mitchell. Right now I can hold a tune but that's about it.



secret love
dried cherry blossoms
in a library book

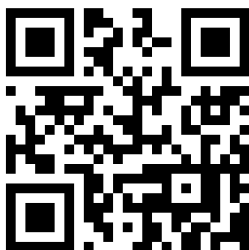
Michele Rule

*in Vancouver Cherry Blossom
Festival 2025 (Sakura Award)*

"Always read your work aloud – to an audience
if possible even if that is just the dog or cat
or even a houseplant!

If a piece doesn't sound
right when read aloud,
then it is not finished yet."

Michele Rule



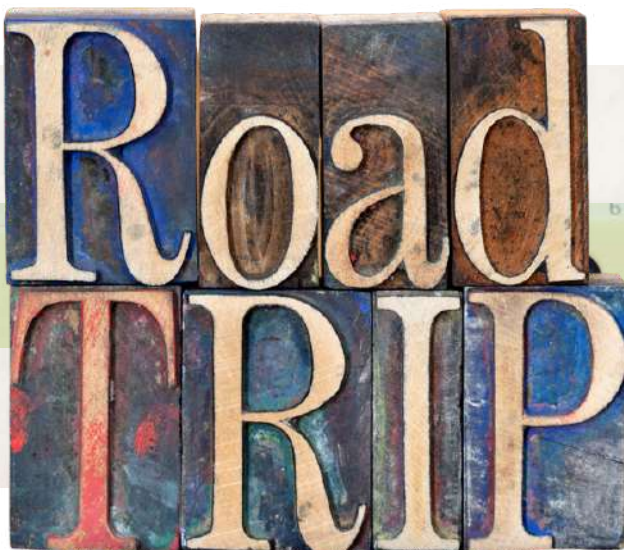
Where can we learn more about you or about your projects?

My husband made me a website for my writing a few years ago –
www.michelerule.ca

haiku o haïku

sunny skies—
the bus leaves me
in a cloud of smoke

*Michael Dylan Welch
Sammamish (WA)*



circles on the map
between here and there
the best coffee shops

*susan spooner
Victoria (BC)*

route des vacances
un scarabée au volant
de la Coccinelle

*Jean-Hughes Chevy
Paris (France)*



road trip
rounding the corner
to childhood

*Jan Stretch
Victoria (BC)*

raining
a quick stop in the woods
watering the earth together

*Sheila Weaver
Gibsons (BC)*



riding into the blue morning
big prairie sky

*Cheryl Ashley
Nanaimo (BC)*

road trip to somewhere
following the birds
our summer migration

*susan spooner
Victoria (BC)*

route de montagne
un choucas me grille
la priorité

*Jean-Hughes Chevy
Paris (France)*

off the main road
summer saplings
smothered in dust

*Allison Douglas-Tourner
Victoria (BC)*

*small town . . .
car after car
takes the bypass*

*Margaret Anderson
Vancouver (BC)*

Busy highway teeming with cars
a heron watches
perched on a pine tree top

*Kamal Parmar
Nanaimo (BC)*



demonstrating
the doppler effect
police siren

*Michael Dylan Welch
Sammamish (WA)*

spinning us over the ridge
helicopter blades
shatter the clouds

*Leslie Hamson
Whitehorse (Yukon)*

island road block
Turkey Vultures
searching cars

*Allison Douglas-Tourner
Victoria (BC)*



beside the Bow
six decades later
we repeat first kiss

*Mary L. Leopkey
Gillies Bay (BC)*

*driving into
a summer blizzard
cottonwood seeds*

*Sheila Weaver
Gibsons (BC)*

*the big debate –
thirty-six miles to
the next rest stop*

*Margaret Anderson
Vancouver (BC)*

Risk Of A Disaster
The Road Is P

otholed

susan spooner
Victoria (BC)

puffy slippers the woman under the overpass

Michael Dylan Welch
Sammamish (WA)

Yukon highway 10 p.m.
car keys locked in
old lady thumbs a ride

Leslie Hamson
Whitehorse (Yukon)



lost car in Vegas
we thumb
our way home

*Jan Stretch
Victoria (BC)*

road trip
through our past
leaving
a trail of
ashes

*Jan Stretch
Victoria (BC)*



cross country drive
pieces of my heart stay
in every small town

Karin Hedetniemi
Victoria (BC)



Winding Prairie highway
I am no longer alone
the evening star, my partner

Kamal Parmar
Nanaimo (BC)



Next haiku challenge

Theme: Stars, Night sky, Sleep

Thème: Étoiles, Ciel de nuit, Sommeil

Deadline/date limite: September 1.

bc-territories@haikucanada.org

or scan the QR code

or click [HERE](#)

New books/Sorties littéraires Hall of fame/mur de la renommée

Congratulations to all poets from our region for their achievements!
Félicitations à toutes les poètes de notre région pour leur accomplissements!

Marianne Bluger- 2026

Book and Chapbook
Awards (English)

Awarded by / décerné
par Haiku Canada

All results [HERE](#)



Chapbook category
Beth Skala winning 3rd Place



Chapbook category
2 Honorable mentions in our region
Karin Hedetniemi & Jan Stretch



Congratulations to Allyson Douglas-Tourner (BC)

- Her book Sticks and Bones, haiku and senryu has been long-listed for The Whistler Independent Book Awards 2026 in the poetry category and it is available on Amazon.ca!



Congratulations to Kamal Parmar, Former Nanaimo Poet Laureate

- Her new poetry book "A silent serenade" had been launched and is available on Amazon.ca !

calls for submissions & contests appels de textes & concours

July-August
Juillet-Août
2026



REMINDER- Click on any underlined text for details
RAPPEL- Cliquez le texte surligné pour les détails

Journals and other publications

submissions in English unless indicated otherwise below

- **Acorn Haiku**, reading period July-August
- **Cattails Journals**, from July 1-31
- **Drifting Sands Haibun**, until July 1-15
- **L'Estran** (Français), article: 31 juillet, haiku: 31 octobre
- **First Frost**, July 1-31
- **Frogpond Journal**, until July 31
- **Heron's Nest**, until September 15
- **Kingfisher**, August 1-31
- **L'écho du haibun V.5**, (Français)- 1er décembre 2026
Thème 1 : La fenêtre, Thème 2 : Fatigué(e) d'observer la lune
- **Modern Haiku**, until July 15
- **Pippa Editions (Paris)**
Anthologie thématique: Au pays des merveilles 31 juillet 2026
- **Presence Haiku**, September 1-30
- **Prune Juice Haiku Journal**, from June 1-30
- **The Hedgerow**, from September 2-16
- **Tsuri-doro haiku and haiga**, from July 1-10
- **Wales Haiku Journal**, from August 1-15

Ongoing or each month / en continu ou mensuel

submissions in English unless indicated otherwise below

- **Asahi Haikuist Network**
- **The Haiku Foundation** (see Haiku Dialogue, Haiku for Healing, Renku, etc (ongoing))
- **The Haiku Shack**
- **The Solitary Daisy**
- **Poetry Pea**
- **Sense and Sensibility Haiku Journal**
- **Tricycle Haiku Challenge**
- **Wee Sparrow**

Contest and others / concours et autres

- **Kusamakura Haiku Contest**, until August 31
- **Morioka International Haiku Journal**, August 31
- **Wales Haiku Journal Summer Competition**, July 31
- **80th Basho Memorial English Haiku Contest**, July 31
- **Haiku Calendar Competition**, Jan 31, 2027

In Memoriam poet Susan Constable

Note: A full tribute to Susan can be found in the Spring 2026 Newsletter

remembering her . . .
a pair of ospreys
over Nanoose Bay

Michael Dylan Welch
for Susan Constable
18 January 1943 – 18 March 2026



INVITATIONS

The Solitary Daisy came about when my friend Sally Quon and I were looking for some local haiku poets to hang out with. We started with a simple email to our friends and then my husband turned it into a proper e-journal. Alongside the fortnightly issues, we run an annual contest. A project that we are working on currently is a Canadian kigo book with room to write your own haiku. Won't it be nice to share more Canada with the world! Submissions open to Canadian poets.

Haiku on Gabriola:
A Love Story –
a celebration of poetry
& a forthcoming book

HAIKU ON GABRIOLA:
a celebration of poetry &
a forthcoming book **A LOVE STORY**

Lynda Terry Ann Naomi Jocelyn KJ Sergio Celine Vito
(photos used with permission)

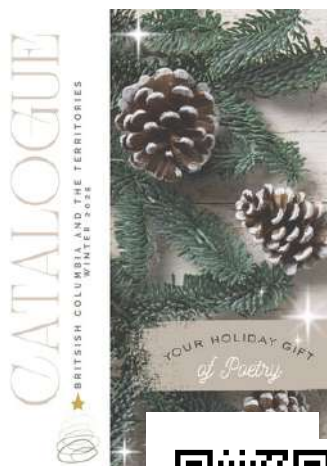
Readers

- SONJA ARNHEIM - VANCOUVER, BC
- TERRY ANN CARTER - VICTORIA, BC
- LYNNE JAMBOR - VANCOUVER, BC
- CAROLE MACDURRY - POINT ROBERTS, B.C.
- WIKI MOULLOUGH - VANCOUVER, BC
- KJ MUNRO - WHITEHORSE, YT
- JACQUELINE PEARCE - VANCOUVER, BC

haiku poets have
been gathering
on Gabriola since
2002

join us for the
celebration

Saturday July 18 2 - 4 pm
GABRIOLA LIBRARY 5-575 NORTH RD 247-7878



submit before
OCTOBER 5

NEW! Haiku/Tanka/Haibun Catalogue - 2026 Edition

The first edition launched in 2025 was a success and I will be working on the 2026 edition to be released in NOVEMBER 2026 –just in time for the holidays! Please submit your latest publications for sale (or download). There is no fee to enter the catalogue.

2026 EDITION- BC/ territories/guests The catalogue promotes haiku/haibun/tanka poetry of Canada members of the BC and the territories region (and HC members from limitroph US regions– you know who you are). To submit use the QR code below or use the online form [HERE](#). The catalogue will be distributed, free of charge, to all Haiku Canada members and partners. Let's promote our region!

2027 EDITION-Canada To celebrate the 50th anniversary of Haiku Canada, there will be a national edition (all provinces and territories) in 2027. More info in 2027 for this special edition. But this year (2026) it is still BC and Territories + guests only! Thanks!

local meetings

Haiku Arbutus

Victoria, BC, since 2014;
meets quarterly;
facilitated by Terry Ann Carter.
Contact terryanncarter3@gmail.com

Vancouver Haiku Group

Vancouver, BC, since 2010;
meets monthly.
Visit the Vancouver Haiku Group Facebook page or
vancouverhaikugroup@gmail.com

Solstice Haiku

Whitehorse, YT, since 2014;
meets monthly to share and discuss haiku;
facilitated by Katherine Munro (kjmunro).
Contact kjm.1560@gmail.com

Haiku Canada Corner



For Haiku Canada Review
Deadline: AUGUST 31
Date limite: 31 août

- English- no theme
- Français- thème: vieille maison, vieil appart

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS IN OUR REGION

Yukon (all Whitehorse residents):

- Pauline Craig Deborah McNevin
- Lori Warren Leslie Hamson

British Columbia:

- Lois Potter (Sechelt)
- Suzan Denis (Salt Spring Island)
- Lysa Collins (Whiterock)

Next Issue **FALL 2026**

Prochain numéro **AUTOMNE 2026**

The next issue will cover the months of September–December 2026
La prochaine édition couvrira les mois de septembre–décembre 2026

Sandra St-Laurent
regional coordinator
coordonnatrice régionale

bc-territories@haikucanada.org



Building the Haiku Canada Collection

archives@haikucanada.org

Publishing a haiku-related book?

Donate one copy to the Haiku Canada Collection as part of your distribution plan. Downsizing? Preparing for end of life? You can help build the Haiku Canada Collection . . .

The Haiku Canada Collection, established in 2017, is located in British Columbia at the University of Victoria Library, within Special Collections and University Archives.

Already donated, or intending to donate, your haiku materials to another archive? Let us know, so that site and your resources can be incorporated into the information base of the Haiku Canada archives.

Archives Committee members

Katherine Munro (Yukon) Vicki McCullough (BC)

We would like to acknowledge that Haiku:rage was designed within the Traditional Territory of the first poets of this land the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'an Council (Yukon Territory). Nous reconnaissons que Haiku:rage a été réalisée sur le territoire ancestral des premiers poètes soient les Premières Nations de Kwanlin Dün et du Conseil de bande Ta'an Kwäch'an (Yukon).

Haiku: rage –Regional Newsletter for Haiku Canada BC and Territories Summer/Été 2026 no.14

Design and Publishing: Sandra St-Laurent
Revision: Ruth Powell

Credit images. through Canva pro unless photographer stated otherwise:
p.1 and 23 Paper clouds with kite by Sumali Ibnu Chamid, p.2 Ladybug, red flowers on beige, photo of poet by Wendy McAlpine, red and white weave by Iridenta Florescu, p.3 Marshland by Sundown001, p.4 Rocks and moss by Artyuengyong, fairy magic Sparkle by Ikarita, Woodland seamless pattern with animal by Jentevaart, Hand drawn daffodils by India, p.5 Mindfulness by pedrosala, p.6 Red poppies (2) by Ale-ks, triangle background by Saurabh Shinde, p.7 Photo of poet by Frithjof Petscheleit, fireflies by canvas, p.8 photo of poet and husband by Arina Elyzen, Mother bear and cubs by Stefan Ionita, Mud Puddle book cover (Munsch) from Wikipedia, Grunge Stamp paper by sparklestroke, p.9 Chocolate liquid on white by Krafia, Boombox by Diego Solas, watercolor green circle by Ssolis media, Sprouting plants DAPPA images, p.10 Green watercolor flower by Noval Pratama, p.11 Road tripp ma by Anthony Rosenberg, Roadtrip writteby Creative 99, p.12 Dew drop on pine by iams, Rain by Shevardina, Front headlight by StasEtVesh, p.13 and 15 Walk on a line by NixMedia, p. 14 Pinebranch with pinecones by honeybees, p. 16 Maze out of edge by Hüseyin Fatih Özeden, p.17 Pothole by LongHa2006, p.18 sneakers on the road by ch_ch, p. 19 Mud and water puddle by Justin Smith, p.20 Green Fern Leaves by Yusuf Gündüz, Green leaves by Silver John, Laurel leaf in watercolor by Elsil IDesign, p.21 paper alarm o'clock by Anastasia Bidzilia, p. 22 wedding opaper with flower Canva 1A, Osprey by Viryani, cover page of Catalogue by Sandra St-Laurent, p. 23, Sans titre by Ennelise.

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